

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 16-29, and 37-51 are pending in the present application.

In the office action mailed June 15, 2005 (the "Office Action"), claims 1-3, 8, 10, 11, 16-18, 23, 25-32, 35, 37-42, 47, 49, and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,760,017 to Banerjee *et al.* (the "Banerjee patent"). Claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 15, 19, 20, 22, 24, 33, 34, 36, 43, 44, 46, 48, and 51 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Banerjee patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,347,095 to Tang *et al.* (the "Tang patent"). The Examiner further rejected claims 6, 21, and 45 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Banerjee and Tang patents, and in view of "Official Notice."

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of the pending claims from the previous office action mailed February 4, 2005 (the "Previous Office Action"). The remarks provided herein supplement the remarks from the response to the Previous Office Action, and more clearly articulate patentable distinctions between the claimed invention and the teachings of the Banerjee and Tang patents. The disclosed embodiments of the invention will now be discussed in comparison to the prior art. Of course, the discussion of the disclosed embodiments, and the discussion of the differences between the disclosed embodiments and the prior art subject matter, do not define the scope or interpretation of any of the claims. Instead, such discussed differences merely help the Examiner appreciate important claim distinctions discussed thereafter.

Embodiments of the present invention are directed to a computer administration system including a wireless administration device that allows a system operator to remotely control a plurality of computer systems interconnected through a communications network to form a computer network. A particular embodiment is illustrated in Figure 3 of the present application. The computer administration system 300 further includes wireless communications modules 314A-N coupled to a respective computer system 304A-N. Each wireless communications module 314A-N is coupled to operator interface connectors of a respective computer system 304A-N. Typical operator interface connectors include connectors through which keyboard, video, and mouse interface signals are provided and received by the computer system 314A-N, as shown for the embodiment of Figure 3. As further shown in Figure 3, a local operator interface 336A-N can be optionally coupled to the respective wireless communications module 314A-N. As described in the present application, the administration system 300 requires

no special software to be loaded onto the computer systems 304A-N, and thus, requires no additional software be maintained by the system administrator. Additionally, the administration system 300 requires no special hardware be added to the computer systems 304A-N since the operator interface signals 312A-N (e.g., keyboard, video, and mouse signals) are standard signals typically utilized to provide operator interface to conventional computer systems.

The Banerjee patent describes a wireless interface device for accessing and controlling a remote host computer. As illustrated in Figure 1 of the Banerjee patent, a wireless interface device 100 is in wireless communication with a remote host computer 101 through a wireless communication link. The remote host computer 101 includes a transceiver 116 through which the remote host computer 101 communicates with the wireless interface device 100. Examples of the transceiver 116 that are described in the Banerjee patent include a wireless transceiver card that is connected through a PCMCIA interface, and alternatively, an "ISA" card transceiver that is installed in the remote host computer 101 using an ISA expansion slot. *See* col. 4, lines 8-19.

Claims 1, 16, 25, 37, and 49 are patentably distinct from the Banerjee patent because the Banerjee patent fails to disclose the combination of limitations recited in the respective claim. For example, claim 1 recites in pertinent part, that each system communications device is adapted to be coupled to the operator interface connector of a respective computer system. The computer system is adapted to provide operator interface data signals through the operator interface connector. As previously discussed, in the particular embodiment described in the present application with respect to Figure 3, examples of operator interface data signals include keyboard, video, and mouse signals. In contrast, as described in the Banerjee patent, the remote host computer 101 communicates with the wireless interface device 100 through a transceiver 116, which, as previously discussed, is described as being a wireless transceiver card connected through a PCMCIA interface or an ISA card installed in an ISA expansion slot. The signals that are provided through the PCMCIA interface or ISA expansion slot are not the same as the operator interface data signals recited in claim 1. Consequently, the PCMCIA interface or the ISA expansion slot are not analogous to the operator interface connector recited in claim 1. The difference between the operator interface connector recited in claim 1 and the PCMCIA interface or ISA expansion slot is further made clear by Figure 3 of the present application. In the embodiment shown in Figure 3, the computer systems 304A-N are coupled to a communications network 306 to form a computer network 308. The

wireless communications modules 314A-N are not coupled to a respective computer system 304A-N through the communications network 306, but are coupled through connectors through which the keyboard, video, and mouse signals are provided and received by the respective computer system 304A-N. As previously discussed, an advantage to this arrangement is that no special hardware be added to the computer systems 304A-N since the operator interface signals 312A-N (e.g., keyboard, video, and mouse signals) are standard signals typically utilized to provide operator interface to conventional computer systems. In contrast, Figure 2 of the Banerjee patent illustrates a network arrangement where the wireless interface device 100 is wirelessly connected to the host computer 101 through a network connected wireless access point 109, and not through operator interface connectors, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner cites col. 43, lines 51-52 as disclosing “each system communications device being adapted to be coupled to the operator interface connector of a corresponding computer system.” *See* the Office Action at page 2. The material cited by the Examiner describes disabling the keyboard and mouse inputs whenever the wireless interface device 100 is wirelessly connected to the remote host computer 101. This feature prevents “the host computer 101 from being accessed while the host computer 101 is under the control of the wireless interface device 100 at a remote location.” *See* col. 43, lines 53-56. As further described in the Banerjee patent, once the wireless connection between the host computer 101 and the wireless interface device 100 is lost, the keyboard and mouse inputs on the host computer 101 are re-enabled. *See* col. 43, lines 56-60. A similar feature is described in the present application as a “remote access” mode (in contrast to the “pass-through” mode), *see* page 11 of the present application. However, the description in the Banerjee patent cited by the Examiner does not change the description found earlier in the Banerjee patent, which describes the host computer 101 as being wirelessly connected to the wireless interface device 100 through a transceiver 116, that is described as being either a wireless transceiver card connected through a PCMCIA interface or a ISA card installed in an ISA expansion slot of the host computer 101. As further previously discussed, having a transceiver card 116 connected to the host computer 101 through the PCMCIA interface or the ISA expansion slot is not analogous to having a system communications device coupled through an operator interface connector to a computer system.

Claims 16, 25, 37, and 49 also include limitations regarding an operator interface connector through which operator interface data signals are provided and received by the

computer system. For example, claim 16 recites a computer administration system that includes a plurality of system communications devices where each system communications device is adapted to be coupled to a operator interface connector of a respective computer system, and is further adapted to be coupled to the local operator interface device. Claim 25 recites a computer administration system that includes a plurality of system communications devices where each system communications device is adapted to be coupled to the operator interface connector of a corresponding computer system. Claim 37 recites in pertinent part a computer network including a plurality of system communications devices, each system communications device coupled to a operator interface connector of a corresponding computer system. Finally, claim 49 recites a method of accessing computer systems that includes encoding the operator interface signals provided through an operator interface connector from each computer system and transmitting the encoded operator interface signals to the selected computer system via a wireless protocol to be input through the operator interface connector of the selected computer system. As previously discussed with respect to claim 1, the Banerjee patent does not disclose system communications devices that are adapted to be coupled to a operator interface connector of a respective computer. The Banerjee patent discloses wirelessly connecting a host computer 101 to a wireless interface device 100 through a wireless card connected to the host computer 101 through a PCMCIA interface or inserted into a ISA expansion slot.

For the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 16, 25, 37, and 49 are patentably distinct from the Banerjee patent. Claims 2, 3, and 8, which depend from claim 1, claims 17, 18, and 23, which depend from claim 16, claims 26-29, which depend from claim 25, claims 38-42 and 47, which depend from claim 37, and claim 50, which depends from claim 49 are also patentably distinct from the Banerjee patent based on their dependency from an allowable base claim. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-3, 8, 16-18, 23, 25-29, 37-42, 47, 49, and 50 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn.

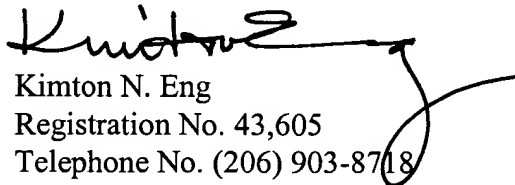
As previously mentioned, claims 4, 5, 7, 9, 19, 20, 22, 24, 43, 44, 46, 48, and 51 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Banerjee patent in view of the Tang patent. Claims 6, 21, and 45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Banerjee patent and the Tang patent, and in view of "Official Notice." The Tang patent has been cited by the Examiner as teaching "an invention for wireless communications between two devices based on proximity, where a device can identify and communicate with a plurality of devices within its proximity." *See* the Office Action at page

13. Official Notice has been taken for the concept of having buttons comprising a manual connect, previous, next, and select buttons is known and accepted in the art. *See* the Office Action at page 15. Even if it is assumed that the Examiner's characterization of the teachings of the Tang patent and Official Notice of common knowledge in the art are accurate, these teachings fail to make up for the deficiencies of the Banerjee patent previously discussed with respect to claims 1, 16, 25, 37, and 49. Therefore, the combined teachings of the Banerjee and Tang patents, and the Official Notice, fail to teach or suggest the combination of limitations recited by claims 4, 5-7, 9, 19, 20-22, 24, 43, 44-46, 48, and 51. Moreover, these claims are patentable over the combined teachings of the Banerjee and Tang patents based on their dependency from a respective allowable base claim.

For the foregoing reasons, claims 4, 5-7, 9, 19, 20-22, 24, 43, 44-46, 48, and 51 are patentable over the Banerjee patent in view of the Tang patent. Consequently, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be withdrawn.

All of the claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

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Enclosures:

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Fee Transmittal Sheet (+ copy)

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